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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Maertens

Atty. Ref.: 2551-102; Confirmation No. 3516

Appl. No. 09/899,302

Group: 1634

Filed: July 6, 2001

Examiner: Whisenant

For: PROCESS FOR TYPING OF HCV ISOLATES

February 23, 2004

**VIA FACSIMILE TO: 7038729306** 

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

## <u>AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION</u>

Responsive to the Official Action dated January 5, 2004, entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks, as well as the attached and the information Disclosure Statement filed February 5, 2004, are requested.

Or ho